

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DODE-00 SS-20 SP-03 PM-07 NSC-07 COME-00 EB-11

LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01 /097 W
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R 021042Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2702

UNCLAS LONDON 09841

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR ELAB UK

SUBJECT: LABOR CLAIM IN UK AGAINST USG

1. BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE HAS TODAY INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT YET ANOTHER CASE AGAINST THE USG HAS BEEN BROUGHT IN THE INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, BY A BRITISH SUBJECT; MURRAY WRATHER, WHO WAS FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY THE CENTRAL BASE FUND, RAF BENTWATERS, WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK. INFORMATION ABOUT THIS LATEST CASE HAS BEEN REQUESTED FROM THE APPROPRIATE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND WILL BE FORWARDED SOONEST.

2. IN REPORTING THIS NEW LITIGATION, THE SIXTH SUCH CASE NOW PENDING (THE OTHERS: ERNEST HILEY, RAVINDER NATH, JOCKEY SAMUEL JAY, IRENE POFFLEY, GEORGE MYROSHNYCHENKO), THE FOREIGN OFFICE AGAIN INQUIRED WHEN THE USG WILL REACH A DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS.

3. THE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL (CIVIL DIVISION), IN HIS LETTER OF APRIL 22, 1974 TO THE GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, INDICATED THAT SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY WOULD NOT BE CLAIMED AND THAT THESE CASES WOULD BE HEARD IN THE BRITISH COURTS. THE LONDON LEGAL FIRM OF HERBERT OPPENHEIMER, NATHAN & VANDYKE WAS REPORTEDLY SELECTED TO REPRESENT THE USG. THERE THE MATTER RESTS, UNCLASSIFIED

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BUT NO STEP HAS BEEN TAKEN TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS

OR TO MOVE THROUGH THE COURTS TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES.
ALTHOUGH THE FOREIGN OFFICE IS OUTWARDLY EXERCISING GREAT
PATIENCE, THEY SHOW SOME SLIGHT IRRITATION THAT THESE
LEGAL FORMALITIES REMAIN UNRESOLVED. OTHER THAN
REAFFIRMING THAT THE MATTER IS BEING GIVEN CAREFUL CON-
SIDERATION, IS THERE ANY FURTHER WORD THAT THE DEPARTMENT
RECOMMENDS BE PASSED TO THE FCO FOR RELAY TO THE
INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS?

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LITIGATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON09841
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740210-1024
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740879/aaaacpzs.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR CLAIM IN UK AGAINST USG
TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, UK, US, (WRATHER, MURRAY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005